

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O R 191052Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7782

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 4055

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, PINS, BG, US, IN

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO THE
UNITED STATES SIDDIQI

REF: DACCA 4054

1. AT THE END OF THE CONVERSATION REPORTED IN REFTEL, SIDDIQI SAID THAT HIS "YOUNG FRIENDS" (IN REPLY TO MY QUESTION HE MADE IT CLEAR HE WAS TALKING ABOUT ARMY OFFICERS INVOLVED IN THE COUP) HAD BEEN VERY NERVOUS IN THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS ABOUT A POSSIBLE INDIAN REACTION AND THOUGHT IT WAS THEREFORE IMPORTANT THAT SOME OF THE MAJOR POWERS RECOGNIZE THE NEW GOVERNMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT TWO OF THEM HAD CALLED ON US FOR THAT PURPOSE, AND THEY HAD ALSO ASKED HIM IF HE COULD HAVE A WORD WITH ME TO URGE EARLY U.S. RECOGNITION.

2. I SAID THAT NO ONE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH US WITH SUCH A REQUEST. I WENT ON TO EXPLAIN HOW WE DEALT WITH RECOGNITION ISSUES AT THE PRESENT TIME, EMPHASIZING THAT WE WERE MAINTAINING NORMAL CONTACTS WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND EXPECTED TO CONTINUE RELATIONS WITH IT. I GAVE HIM THE DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT OF AUGUST 18 ON THIS POINT FROM THE WIRELESS FILE.

3. SIDDIQI ASKED WHAT I THOUGHT INDIA'S REACTION WOULD BE.

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I SAID THAT MOST OF THE COMMENTARY I HAD SEEN HAD BEEN

QUITE CORRECT IN EMPHASIZING THAT THESE EVENTS WERE INTERNAL MATTERS FOR BANGLADESH AND I HAD NO REASON TO SUPPOSE THAT INDIA WOULD REACT IN ANY OTHER WAY.

4. THE ABOVE PORTION OF OUR CONVERSATION PROBABLY ACCOUNTS FOR SIDDIQI(S REQUEST TO SEE ME AS HE MAY HAVE WISHED TO TELL HIS CONTACTS THAT HE HAS SPOKEN TO US ABOUT EARLY RECOGNITION. FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, SIDDIQI IS DISTANTLY RELATED TO MAJOR RASHID, ONE OF THE KEY COUP FIGURES.
BOSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL LEADERS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DACCA04055
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750286-0107
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750837/aaaabfue.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 DACCA 4054
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO THE UNITED STATES SIDDIQI
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, PINS, BG, US, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006